AMENDMENTS

In the claims:

Please **cancel** claims 23-28, 31, 35 and 39.

Please **amend** the claims 29, 30, 32-34, 36-38 and 40 as follows:

29. (Amended) A communications data processing apparatus, comprising:

a receiver that receives control data blocks, each block containing time information and chronological data which represents chronological order;

a memory that temporarily stores the control data blocks received by said receiver;

a judging device that judges from the time information contained in the control data block whether a predetermined time has passed; and

a processor that starts reading the control data block temporarily stored in said memory in accordance with said chronological data in said control data block, when said judging device judges that the predetermined time has passed.

30. (Amended) A communications data processing apparatus, comprising:

a receiver that receives control data and recovery data for recovering the control data, each data containing time information;

a memory that temporarily stores the control data and recovery data received by said receiver;

a judging device that judges from the time information contained in the control data whether a predetermined time has passed; and

a processor that starts the processing of the control data or recovery data temporarily stored in said memory when said judging device judges that the predetermined time has passed wherein, when the control data is not received, said processor recovers the processing of the control data by processing the recovery data.

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32. (Amended) A communications data processing apparatus, comprising:

a receiver that receives control data controlling production of musical tone and containing time information;

a memory that temporarily stores the control data received by said receiver;

a judging device that judges from the time information contained in the control data whether a predetermined time has passed;

a processor that starts the processing of the control data temporarily stored in said memory when said judging device judges that the predetermined time has passed;

a checking device that checks a time sequential flow of the control data temporarily stored in said memory; and

a remover that removes unnatural data in the time sequential flow of the control data from the memory and prevents production of unnatural musical tone.

33. (Amended) A communications data processing method, comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving control data blocks, each block containing time information and chronological data which represents chronological order;

(b) temporarily storing the control data blocks received by said receiving step;

(c) judging from the time information contained in the control data block whether a predetermined time has passed; and

(d) starting the reading of the control data block temporarily stored in said storing step in accordance with said chronological data in said control data block, when said judging step judges that the predetermined time has passed.

34. (Amended) A communications data processing method, comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving control data and recovery data for recovering the control data, each data containing time information;

(b) temporarily storing the control data and recovery data received by said reception step;

(c) judging from the time information contained in the control data whether a predetermined time has passed; and

(d) starting the processing of the control data or recovery data temporarily stored in said storage step when said judging step judges that the predetermined time has passed and, when the control data is not received, recovering the processing of the control data by processing the recovery data.

36. (Amended) A communications data processing method, comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving control data controlling production of musical tone and containing time information;

(b) temporarily storing the control data received by said reception step;

(c) judging from the time information contained in the control data whether a predetermined time has passed;

(d) starting the processing of the control data temporarily stored in said storage step when said judging step judges that the predetermined time has passed;

(e) checking a time sequential flow of the control data temporarily stored in said storage step; and

(f) removing unnatural data in the time sequential flow of the control data from the memory and preventing production of unnatural musical tone.

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37.   (Amended)   A storage medium storing a program, which a computer executes to realize a communications data process, comprising the instructions for:

(a)   receiving control data blocks, each block containing time information and chronological data which represents chronological order;

(b)   temporarily storing the control data blocks received by said receiving step;

(c)   judging from the time information contained in the control data block whether a predetermined time has passed, and

(d)   starting the reading of the control data block temporarily stored in said storing step in accordance with said chronological data in said control data block, when said judging step judges that the predetermined time has passed.

38.   (Amended)   A storage medium storing a program, which a computer executes to realize a communications data process, comprising the instructions for:

(a)   receiving control data and recovery data for recovering the control data, each data containing time information;

(b)   temporarily storing the control data and recovery data received by said reception step;

(c)   judging from the time information contained in the control data whether a predetermined time has passed; and

(d)   starting the processing of the control data or recovery data temporarily stored in said storage step when said judging step judges that the predetermined time has passed and, when the control data is not received, recovering the processing of the control data by processing the recovery data.

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40.   (Amended)   A storage medium storing a program, which a computer executes to realize a communications data process, comprising the instructions for:

(a)   receiving control data controlling production of musical tone and containing time information;

(b)   temporarily storing the control data received by said reception step;

'(c)   judging from the time information contained in the control data whether a predetermined time has passed;

(d)   starting the processing of the control data temporarily stored in said storage step when said judging step judges that the predetermined time has passed;

(e)   checking a time sequential flow of the control data temporarily stored in said storage step; and

(f)   removing unnatural data in the time sequential flow of the control data from the memory and preventing production of unnatural musical tone.

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Please **add** claims 41-46 as follows:

41.   (New) A communications data processing apparatus, comprising:

a receiver that receives data containing time information from an external device;

a memory that temporarily stores said received data;

a setting device that rectifies said time information with a predetermined value and sets

the rectified time information as an initial value of timer time information for controlling

processing timing of said stored data;

a processor that counts up the timer time information periodically and processes the

stored data in accordance with said counted up timer time information and the time information

contained in the data to be processed; and

a controller that judges whether or not said received data is specific data and controls the

setting device to set the timer time information when the received data is specific data and to not

set the timer time information when the received data is not specific data.

42.   (New) A communications data processing apparatus according to claim 41,

wherein said time information contained in the data received from the external device is absolute

time added at the external device.

43.   (New) A communications data processing apparatus according to claim 41,

wherein said receiver further receives a value for rectifying the time information from the

external device, and

said setting device rectifies said time information with said received value.

44.   (New) A communications data processing apparatus according to claim 41,

further comprising a determiner that determines a value for rectifying the time information in

accordance with capacity of said memory for storing the received data, and wherein the setting

device rectifies said time information with said determined value.

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45. (New) A communications data processing method, comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving data containing time information from an external device;

(b) temporarily storing said received data;

(c) rectifying said time information with a predetermined value and setting the rectified time information as an initial value of timer time information for controlling processing timing of said stored data;

(d) counting up the timer time information periodically and processing the stored data in accordance with said counted up timer time information and the time information contained in the data to be processed; and

(e) judging whether or not said received data is specific data and controlling the setting device to set the timer time information when the received data is specific data and to not set the timer time information when the received data is not specific data.

46. (New) A storage medium storing a program, which a computer executes to realize a communications data process, comprising the instructions for:

(a) receiving data containing time information from an external device;

(b) temporarily storing said received data;

(c) rectifying said time information with a predetermined value and setting the rectified time information as an initial value of timer time information for controlling processing timing of said stored data;

(d) counting up the timer time information periodically and processing the stored data in accordance with said counted up timer time information and the time information contained in the data to be processed; and

(e) judging whether or not said received data is specific data and controlling the setting device to set the timer time information when the received data is specific data and to not set the timer time information when the received data is not specific data.